

Second National Homeless Court Conference

**➔ Keynote Address: Hon. Ming W. Chin, Associate Justice
California Supreme Court**

Focus: Initiating and Operating Homeless Courts

Date: January 30, 2004

Time: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Place: 1115 Truxtun Avenue – Board of Supervisor Chambers

Cost: Attendance is free !

**➔ The first 100 registering to attend by January 16, 2004
are guaranteed to receive a free lunch.**

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Conference Presentations Include:

- “Causes of Homelessness – A Look at One Community – Bakersfield”
 - Mary McCabe, Director of Development, Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance, Inc.
- Homeless Courts – “A Look at the Operation of Bakersfield’s Homeless Court”
 - Judge Skip Staley, Superior Court – Kern County
- “What Homeless Court Has Done For Me & Why I Am Glad You Are Here”
 - Client
- Panel Discussion – ‘How To Build Your Own Homeless Court’
 - (With workbook: description of & worksheets for building your own Homeless Ct.)
 - Panel members: **Moderator: Steve Binder**, Deputy Public Defender, San Diego
 - * **Hon. Victoria J. Grant**, Albuquerque, NM * **Hon. Skip Staley**, Bakersfield, CA
Homeless Court Judge Homeless Court Judge
 - * **Lisa R. Jaskol**, Los Angeles, CA * **Tina Rasnow**, Ventura, CA
Directing Attorney Coordinator, Self-Help Access Center
Homelessness Prevention Law Project Superior Court – Ventura County
Public Counsel
 - * **Vikki Del Pellegrino**, Bakersfield, CA * **Teryl Wakeman**, Bakersfield, CA
Deputy Dist. Atty. – Kern County Dep. Pub. Defender – Kern County
 - * **Michael Purtell**, Fresno, CA * **Andre Simpson**, San Diego, CA
Deputy Director, Poverello House Director, Community Reintegration
- Attend an Actual Homeless Court Session - Bakersfield Rescue Mission (A Homeless Shelter)
- Keynote Address:
 - **Hon. Ming W. Chin**, Associate Justice, California Supreme Court
San Francisco, CA
- Panel Discussion on the Operation of Homeless Courts
- Closing Remarks: Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall

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➔ Call Walter Williams for registration questions: 661-334-4676

(See following pages for presenter bio’s and Registration Form)

HON. MING W. CHIN, Associate Justice, California Supreme Court

➔ KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Professional Employment

1996 - Present: Associate Justice, California

1994 – 1996: Past Presiding Justice of the First District Court of Appeal, Division Three

1990 – 1994: Associate Justice, California Court of Appeals, 1st District, Division Three

1988 – 1990: Judge, Alameda Superior

1976 – 1988: Partner, Aiken, Kramer & Cummings, Inc. (Business & Employment Law)

1973 – 1976: Associate, Aiken, Kramer & Cummings, Inc. (Business & Employment Law)

Military

1969 – 1971: Captain, U. S. Army Reserves

1967 – 1969: Captain, U. S. Army (including service in Long Binh, Vietnam)

1969 - U.S. Army Commendation Medal

1969 - The Bronze Star (US Army), Long Binh

ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS (PARTIAL LISTING)

Justice Chin received his undergraduate degree and his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the University of San Francisco. Justice Chin has served with many organizations including state and local bar committees, and as President of the Alameda County Bar Association. He has served in many capacities with USF including as member of the Board of Trustees and Adjunct Professor of Law.

Justice Chin has received numerous awards throughout his career. Among many others, in 1988, he was named Alumnus of the Year by USF. USF Law School named him Alumnus of the Year in 1993 and presented him with the St. Thomas More Award in 1996. The Southern Alameda County Bar Association selected Justice Chin as the Outstanding Judge of the Year in 1989.

Justice Chin has authored landmark decisions in the areas such as DNA, toxic tort insurance coverage, surrogate parents, and hate crimes. He lectures extensively in many venues in California and throughout the United States. In 1997 he delivered the Keynote Address: “*Fairness or Bias? - Symposium on Racial and Ethnic Composition and Attitudes in the Judiciary.*” Justice Chin has authored numerous publications including the area of employment litigation.

STEVE BINDER - SAN DIEGO, CA - Deputy Public Defender, San Diego County

➔ **Panel Moderator:** Mr. Binder has worked as an attorney in the San Diego Office of the Public Defender since 1989. Previous areas of representation have included clients in the mental health and welfare fraud specialty units. Mr. Binder founded the Homeless Court Program (HCP) in 1989 and authored a grant to initiate funding for this program. He oversees the operation of the HCP and between October 1999 and February 2001, 266 participants resolved over 700 cases through the HCP. Mr. Binder has been presented with many awards for his efforts with HCP. These awards include “E Stanley Conant Award” in 2002, from the Board of Directors of Defense Programs in San Diego, the “Unsung Hero Award” in 2000, from the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, “Volunteer Attorney of the Year Award” in 1990, from the Vietnam Veterans of San Diego, and the “Community Service Award” in 1999, from the Public Defender Association. The “Hodson Award” was presented to the San Diego County Office of the Public Defender for efforts with the HCP by the ABA.

JUDGE VICTORIA J. GRANT, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque, NM

Metropolitan Ct., Presiding Criminal Judge

➔ **Panelist:** Judge Grant graduated Magna cum Laude - North Carolina State University and obtained her law degree - University of Nebraska. She practiced as both a prosecutor and criminal defense counsel for 13 years prior to her judicial appointment. She oversees 11 criminal courts. Judge Grant began the 1st Homeless Court in New Mexico in 2002. Judge Grant also serves as Presiding Drug Court Judge of her state’s largest program, which also serves as a training site and a Mentor Court for the National Drug Court Institute. Judge Grant has also worked to establish innovative approaches in other areas such as domestic violence, mental health and the Urban Native-American Drug Court Program (starting 2004).

HON. HARVEY L. HALL – Mayor, Bakersfield, CA

➔ **Presenter:** Mayor Hall will close our conference with his closing comments. Mayor Hall was sworn in as Bakersfield's 25th Mayor in January of 2001. Mayor Hall's theme in office has been "Unity in the Community." Mayor Hall has advocated for the homeless including working to establish bus service and a bus stop for a local homeless shelter location. He has also been an enthusiastic supporter of the Homeless Veteran's Stand Down and the Homeless Court Program. His Mayor's Youth Advisory Council has worked to provide the local homeless shelters with needed items such as blankets, hygiene kits and other necessities. Mayor Hall is the owner and founder of Hall Ambulance Service, Inc. since 1971. It is the largest provider of emergency and non-emergency medical transportation in Kern County and 30th largest in the United States. Mr. Hall is very active in many community organizations and serves on many boards.

TINA RASNOW – Superior Court, Ventura County, CA Coordinator-Self-Help Legal Access Center

➔ **Panelist:** Ms. Rasnow current position involves assisting un-represented litigants navigate the court process and conducting outreach programs to educate the community about the role of the court. She practiced law in land use, environmental law, and real property law. She received her law degree – Hastings School of Law, Univ. of CA. She has served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Ventura College of Law since 1997. She has been very active in community issues including voting issues and women's rights. Her awards include; Ben E. Nordman Public Service Award (99), Calif. Women Lawyer's Fay Stender Award (98), Home Town Hero Award, Ventura Cnty. Cultural Diversity Board (97) & President's Pro Bono Award, Calif. State Bar (96).

LISA JASKOL - LOS ANGELES, CA - Directing Attorney - Public Counsel Homelessness Prevention Law Project

➔ **Panelist:** Ms. Jaskol received her law degree - Yale University. She clerked for Justice Harry Pregerson, U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit. Ms. Jaskol practiced with private law firms for 11 years, becoming a partner at Horvitz & Levy LLP. Ms. Jaskol joined Public Counsel in 2001 and oversees the operation of the Los Angeles Homeless Court program.

ANDRE SIMPSON - SAN DIEGO, CA - Community Reintegration Director Vietnam Veterans of San Diego

➔ **Panelist:** Mr. Simpson received a Bachelors of Science in Human Services - University of Phoenix. Mr. Simpson has served with the Vietnam Veterans of San Diego for over 8 years in many capacities including as an employment counselor, substance abuse counselor, and a case manager. His current position includes assisting with the monthly homeless court program. Mr. Simpson has received numerous awards including; National Coalition for Homeless Veterans "Unsung Hero Award," San Diego City Council "Special Commendation," and City of San Diego "Certificate of Appreciation."

PURTELL, MICHAEL – Fresno, CA - Deputy Director, Poverello House

➔ **Panelist:** Mr. Purtell is the deputy director of Poverello House, a homeless shelter in Fresno, CA. In that capacity he has assisted the Fresno Superior Court in holding both Homeless Courts and the Annual Veterans Stand Down Court. Mr. Poverello has spent several years overseas working with the Peace Corps and private institutions before returning to the United States to attend Law School. He has also clerked for U.S. Bankruptcy Ct.

WAKEMAN, TERYL – Bakersfield, CA - Deputy Public Defender, County of Kern

➔ **Panelist:** Mr. Wakeman has worked with the Office of the Public Defender, County of Kern since 1999. He helped implement both the Homeless Veterans Stand Down Court and the Homeless Court and has worked with both from their inception to the present. In that capacity, he has appeared with over 300 clients in these courts. Mr. Wakeman is currently assigned to the Juvenile Justice Court. He sits as Judge for the Juvenile Teen Court.

VIKKI DEL PELLIGRINO - Bakersfield, CA – Dep. Dist. Attorney - County of Kern

➔ **Panelist:** Since their inception in 1999, Ms. Del Pellegrino has served as lead prosecutor for Homeless Court and Veteran's Stand Down. As a Kern County Deputy District Attorney for over a decade, Ms. Del Pellegrino has focused on crimes within the family including homicide, domestic violence, child sexual assault and abuse. Additionally, Ms. Del Pellegrino has served as the lead attorney in cases involving Mental Health issues such as competency and insanity as well as civil commitments of Sexually Violent Predators and Mentally Disordered Offenders. Currently, Ms. Del Pellegrino is the designated prosecutor for the Bakersfield City Schools' Attendance Enhancement Project and is a key component in an inter-disciplinary team whose goal is truancy reduction. Community commitments include: Mental Health & Substance Abuse Board, the Mentally Ill Crime Reduction Project, PAC Mentor Program & Mock Trial.

MARY McCABE - Bakersfield, CA - Director of Development Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance, Inc.

➔ **Presenter:** Ms. McCabe received her Masters Degree - University of Lavern in Leadership & Management. Her Master's thesis dealt with the causes of Bakersfield homelessness. At GBLA, she secures resources to develop and implement programs for vulnerable populations: elderly, agricultural workers, domestic violence victims, children and the homeless.

JUDGE SKIP STALEY - SUPERIOR COURT – KERN - BAKERSFIELD, CA

➔ **Presenter/Panelist:** Judge Staley received a B.S. degree – New York University and his law degree – University of San Diego. He served as a Kern County Deputy Pubic Defender for 6 years. He was appointed to the bench in 1982. He currently sits on the court's Executive Committee. Judge Staley helped implement the Homeless Veterans Stand Down Court (99) & Homeless Court (2002). He has presided over 7 sessions handling over 250 defendants and over 500 cases. Judge Staley received the Bakersfield Individual Humanitarian Award in 2002, sponsored by the Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, for his work with homeless courts.

(12/29/03)

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January 30, 2004 - 8:00 am – 5:00
1115 Truxtun Avenue – Board of Supervisors Chambers

REGISTRATION FORM

(Limited to 100 Attendees, free lunches guaranteed to those registering by January 16, 2004)

Last Name:

First Name:

Position/Title:

Agency:

Address:

City:

State:

ZIP:

Telephone: ()

E-mail:

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Please list issues you would like to see addressed:

Hotel:

Holiday Inn Select @ 801 Truxtun Ave. 661-323-1900 (Std./Gov. Rates: \$119/84?)

Mail to: Walter Williams – HCC

Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance, Inc

615 California Avenue

Bakersfield, CA 93304

or email to: wwilliams@gbla.org

or FAX to: 661-325-4482

- *For inquires: Walter Williams, GBLA, 661-334-4676*